THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The diplomatic missions in Brazil, South Africa, China and Turkey do not have a sanctioned establishment for Air-attache.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All established vacancies of Air-Attaches, in Indian missions abroad have been filled.

रक्षा संपदा विभाग के भूखंडों को लीज पर दिया जाना

4151. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रक्षा संपदा विभाग के लीज पर दिए गए भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनका किराया प्राप्त हो चुका है तथा किराए की दर कितनी है और उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनका किराया बकाया है तथा यह कब से बकाया है;

(ग) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनकी लीज की अवधि समाप्त हो चुकी है; और

(घ) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिन पर हुए अवैध कब्जों को हटाने की कार्रवाई की जा रही है तथा इस संबंध में क्या प्रगति हुई है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन०वी०एन० सोमू): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Issuance of unfit Medicines by Armed Forces Medical Stores Depots

4152. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centrally purchased medicines costing Rs. 10.19 lakh which were found unfit were issued to patients prior to receipt of test reports by Armed Forces Medical Stores Depot, Lucknow and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to avoid such instances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) The drugs and medicines are purchased by the Armed Forces Medical Services from the manufacturers registered with the Directorate General of Quality Assurance or the Directorate General of Health Services. The manufacturers are registered only after their manufacturing process is inspected and found statisfactory. The medicines purchased centrally are tested by the Quality Assurance Organisation and only after their acceptance, they are released for consumption. In certain emergent situations, the Medical Store Depots make local purchases of medicines from registered firms and accept them on the basis of their claim. However, for ample precaution, some samples are sent for post laboratory testing. The drugs purchased in such emergent situation are issued without waiting for the results of the laboratory test wherever undertaken. In majority of cases, the laboratory tests confirm the specified standards of medicines. In a small number cases the medicines are not found to satisfy all the prescribed specifications. In such cases the medicin are returned to the suppliers for replacement or for recovery of the cost of medicines. In certain cases, restrictions are also placed on future purchases from such firms.

2. During the period from December 1991 to December 1996, some medicines locally purchased by the Armed Forces Medical Store Depots, Lucknow and Delhi, were found not to conform to the specifications. Even in these cases there was only marginal thereapeutic effect of little clinical significance.

Delay in appointment of dependents of deceased defence personnel

4153. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with Station Head Quarters, Delhi Cantt. for appointment of dependents of deceased

personnel of Signal Regiment who died in 1994 till date on compassionate grounds;

(b) the reasons for delay in appointing the dependents of deceased personnel and action contemplated against the officials responsible therefor, and

(c) by when the above appointments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Sir, only one case of compassionate appointment is pending in Signal Regiment of Station Headquarters, Delhi Cantt. Delay in offering appointment to the eldest son of the deceased Government servant is attributable, partly, to his insistence for the posts which were not available and partly, to his delayed completion of requisite formalities for which no official can be held responsible, as such. Appointment will, however, be offered after completion of requisite official action.

Unauthorise use of Defence land in Maharashtra

4154. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of growing instances of unauthorised use of Army land for commercial purposes brought to the notice of Government during the past five years, State-wise;

(b) the action taken thereon particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government have approved proposals for lease of defence land which is not in immediate use for the defence purposes, to the NGOs during past five years, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of similar proposals pending and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d) Informaiton is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sale of fake letters for Army Jobs

4155. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Indian Express dated the 22nd March, 1997 regarding fake letters for Army jobs on sale;

(b) if so, the action taken against the culprits; and

(c) the measures taken to give wide publicity to Army recruitment procedures to prevent youths being cheated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The culprits have been handed over by the Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington to the Police Station, Wellington for their investigation and further necessary action.

(c) Posters, Leaflets & brochures are being published by Army Headquarter giving recruitment procedures and these are widely distributed in various colleges, Schools and to State Authorities upto Tehsil levels through Zonal Recruitment Office & Branch Recruitment Offices.

Joining of Duties by Selected Candidates in Defence Depot

4156. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2601 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th March, 1997 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selected candidates in Group 'D' Post (Mazdoor) in Central Ordinance Depot, Shakurbasti, Delhi have been waiting long to join their duties after completing all selection formalities; and